

JUDD BRINGS JOY AT LAST IN FA TROPHY

Wycombe Wanderers 1, Barking 0

Sub's goal beats Barking and sends Wanderers north

WYCOMBE KEPT their supporters in nail-biting suspense until the last few minutes in a game of high endeavour in this postponed FA Trophy tie against high-scoring Barking at Loakes Park on Tuesday night and earned a trip North thanks to a late goal from substitute Mark Judd. It was a match of swift cut and thrust, hectic goalmouth clearances and reflex-action saves.

But the fact is that Wycombe ought to have gone in at half-time in the lead.

Both sides were without their key marksmen — Atkins out of the Wycombe team and Bryn Key, Barking's leading scorer, absent. This was the first time this season that Barking had failed to score in a competitive game — and John Maskell was rarely troubled.

It was typical cup-tie football. But if ball skills were mainly absent, thrills were certainly not. By their effort and the chances they created, Wycombe were well worth their victory.

The game was won and lost in the 87th minute. A Wanderers' corner kick was cleared by a long boot up-field and as the Barking players streamed out of the area the ball was collected by Birdseye who swung a 25 yard pass out to the line. Long crossed into the penalty area, where substitute Mark Judd coolly swept the ball out of the 'keeper's reach.

Previously Micky Marwick, the Barking 'keeper, had made two astonishing reflex action saves from Holifield. The

Wanderers, for once, were always prepared to shoot but were never rewarded until that last-moment winner.

Barking, attacking from the start, had three corners in the opening six minutes, with Wycombe defenders slightly hesitant.

But on the ten-minute mark Wycombe might have gone ahead when Scott crossed from the byeline. The ball was slightly behind Holifield, whose effort was thwarted. The visiting defence had a hectic time for a spell and the Blues should have gone ahead with a gift-wrapped chance from a bad back-pass.

A chance

Scott, ideally placed, muffed the chance and gave Marwick the opportunity to turn the ball away. Barking had another 'life' when the ball was scrambled off the line.

Though the game was generally played in good spirit, Micky Ironton was booked for a foul on Holifield.

Just before half-time a tremendous free kick from Kennedy was only parried by Marwick but no-one followed up and a chance was lost.

Long was always troublesome to the Barking defence and from two of his crosses Marwick saved, it seemed miraculously, from cannon-like shots from Holifield. At the other end Birdseye saved the day with a goal-line clearance.

With the clock ticking away, most Wycombe supporters were gloomily anticipating a replay for it seemed that nothing Wycombe could do would prove decisive. It was then that Judd, who came on for Evans in the last quarter of an hour, brightened the outlook.

The Blues might have had a penalty after that, for Scott was clearly going through when his legs were swept from under him. But the referee thought otherwise.



Micky Holifield nearly connects with a cross and has Micky Marwick flying towards his own net in a Wanderers' F.A. Trophy. It's also an anxious moment for Barking's below, it's that man Holifield again doing a bit of a partnership with Keeper Marwick. Now who's taking the action shots by Bob Mead at Loakes Park.

